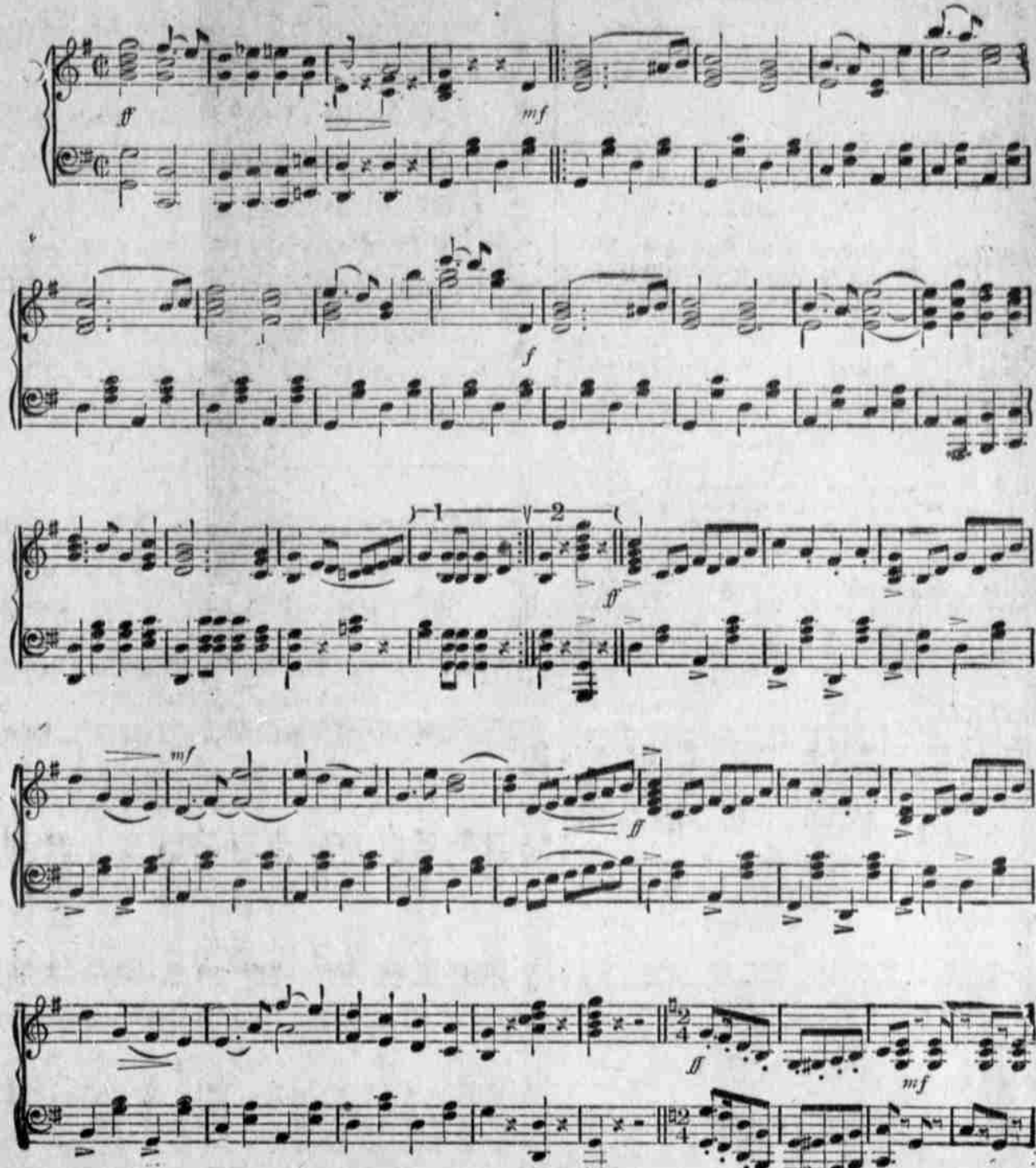


"Mardi-Gras" March

FREDERICK A. FRANKLIN



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"Mardi-Gras" March.

DAMAGE BY INSECTS

ENORMOUS LOSS TO FARMERS IN AMERICA ANNUALLY.

Experts of the Agricultural Department Busy Trying to Save Some of This Money for the Producers.

Washington.—Experts in the agricultural department are now tabulating the damage in dollars to the wheat crop in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas as a result of the ravages of the green bug this spring. Complete figures have not yet been compiled, but the damage estimated varies from \$9,000,000 to \$20,000,000. Oklahoma will show the greatest losses, the bugs having destroyed a big portion of its crop.

While the losses seem enormous, especially to the individual grain growers of that section where the green bugs operated, they are not a drop in the bucket compared to the annual losses of farmers in the United States from other causes. For instance, nothing has been heard of the chinch bug this year, but it has done more than \$50,000,000 worth of damage to growing wheat and corn. The reason that it has attracted no prominence is because it has produced no entire crop failure in any particular section of the country. It has worked everywhere a little, destroying perhaps from five to ten per cent. of the growing wheat and corn. Neither has the Hessian fly attracted any attention, yet it has damaged crops to the extent of \$40,000,000. That is its annual average of destruction. The boll weevil does more than double the annual damage to the cotton crop of the south than the green bugs have done in the southwest wheat fields. Still it has not found its way into the headlines. The codling moth each year destroys more than \$40,000,000 worth of fruit, and tree borers damage natural and artificial forest trees to the extent of \$30,000,000 annually.

It is estimated that the loss to the farmers of the United States annually from crop and animal destroying diseases aggregates over \$1,000,000,000. The exact figures are given at \$1,135,000,000. In some years it is less, in others more. These figures represent the average for the last ten years.

The causes of the loss, tabulated, follows:

From insects	\$750,000,000
From diseases to crops	150,000,000
From destruction by rats	75,000,000
From forest fires	25,000,000
From diseases of horses	24,000,000
From diseases of cattle	20,000,000
From diseases of dogs	15,000,000
From diseases of sheep	5,000,000
Destroyed by birds, rabbits and animal pests	15,000,000
Total	\$1,135,000,000

As above shown, the chinch bug is the champion wheat and corn crop destroyer of the bug family, while the Hessian fly is a close second. Here

are the estimates of damage done by the principal pests:

Chinch bug, \$50,000,000; corn rot worm, \$20,000,000; corn ear worm, \$20,000,000; wheat louse, \$15,000,000; boll weevil, \$2,000,000; cotton leaf worm, \$20,000,000; codling moth, \$40,000,000; cattle grub, \$35,000,000; cattle tick, \$25,000,000; tree borers, \$30,000,000.

There are a thousand other bugs and pests which operate extensively to cut down the crop yield.

Secretary Wilson of the agricultural department now has an army of experts at work on remedies to exterminate the living pests and to check the vegetable and animal diseases. It is within the realm of possibility finally to find a way to kill off all the pests and to master all the diseases both in animal and plant life, but hardly probable. "These pests and diseases will be doing business when our children's children are gone," said one of the experts the other day. "But there is one thing certain, they will not do as much damage as they are doing now. Scientists of the government will have the losses greatly minimized."

GIRL HAS HUNTER'S LICENSE.

Eva Flynn, Age Thirteen, Bags Game on Every Trip She Makes.

Danville, Ill.—Eva Flynn, 13 years old, the daughter of one of Danville's patrolmen, who has the reputation of being one of the finest shots in Illinois, is the first member of the gentler sex to obtain a hunter's license in this section of Illinois in 12 years. She applied for a license to the county court clerk and it was granted to her immediately.

The little miss does not hunt with her license at home; she does the real work in the field, using a 20-gauge hammerless shotgun and a 16-shot 22-caliber Winchester rifle. She is a remarkably good shot, and bags game every time she goes out. The little girl has been shooting ever since she was nine years old. Frequently when she goes out with her 190-pound father she manages to get a better bag than he, although she is a hundred pounds lighter and has considerable difficulty in managing her weapon.

Latest in Postal Cards.
Washington.—A one-cent postal card of new design is about to be issued by the postoffice department. It is made of cream-colored cardboard, 3½ by 5½ inches in size, and is printed in black ink. A frame surrounds the stamp. The portrait used on the stamp is a profile of McKinley in a circular frame with the date of his birth and death, "1843, McKinley, 1901," inclosed in a ribbon.

STATUE TO ENSIGN BAGLEY.
Memorial to Young Naval Lieutenant Erected by North Carolina.

Raleigh, N. C.—North Carolina now has raised two monuments to her naval heroes. The first was the Ensign Bagley Monument, erected in Raleigh, N. C., in honor of Ensign Bagley, who was killed in the battle of Manila Bay, 1898. The second is the statue to Ensign Bagley, which is to be erected in the city of Raleigh, N. C., in honor of Ensign Bagley, who was killed in the battle of Manila Bay, 1898.

dier dead in the brief war with Spain. The first was to Lieut. William E. Shipp, of the Ninth cavalry, who was shot and instantly killed by a Mauser bullet at the storming of San Juan hill, in Cuba.

A few days ago the state erected another memorial to an officer who happened by Fate's decree to be the



Ensign Bagley Monument.

only one of the naval branch of the service to meet death in that war. This was Ensign Worth Bagley, to whom death came in the Bay of Cardenas, Cuba. The monument to Shipp is at Charlotte. That to Bagley adorns the Capitol square at Raleigh, his native city.

Ensign Bagley was born in Raleigh, April 7, 1874, his father, who had been a major in the confederate service, being at that time grand master of the North Carolina Odd Fellows. His mother was a granddaughter of Gov. Jonathan Worth. On both sides the families are thoroughly representative, and have so been from the colonial days. On June 20, 1898, he was appointed to the United States Naval academy after a competitive examination. He was made an ensign July 1, 1897. He served on the cruiser Montgomery, on the battleship Texas and then on the Maine.

When Lieut. Bernadu took command of the torpedo boat Winslow he chose Bagley as his lieutenant, the latter having been recommended by many officers for fitness. He began his duties on the Winslow December 28, 1897.

O'BRIEN TO BE TRANSFERRED.
Minister to Denmark Will Succeed Ambassador Wright.

Washington.—The state department has formally announced that Thomas J. O'Brien of Grand Rapids, Mich.,

United States minister to Copenhagen, will become ambassador to Japan in September, on the retirement of Luke

THOMAS J. O'BRIEN.
(Minister to Denmark Raised to Japanese Post.)

E. Wright of Tennessee, who has given notice to the department that he wishes to leave the service at that time.

Mr. O'Brien is 65 years old and a native of Jackson, Mich. At one time he had the reputation of being the ablest lawyer in Michigan, outside of Detroit. For years he was chief counsel of the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad, and a director in the road as well. He was never a candidate for office except in 1883, when he was nominated for supreme court justice and went down to defeat with the whole Republican ticket in the landslide of that year. He led his ticket, however, with a handsome vote. He was a delegate to the national convention of 1896 that nominated McKinley and was a member of the committee that officially notified McKinley of his nomination.

Exporting Cats.

The export returns of the board of trade for the current period will contain a notable addition serving to still further demonstrate the cosmopolitan character of England's free trade. It refers to a shipment of 100 cats to India, which a shipping office in the city was asked to arrange the other day. The reason given for the novel consignment is that one of the plague districts is overrun with rats and the cats are wanted to effect the necessary slaughter.—London Tribune.

SOW SUCKLES BIG FROG.

Little Piggies Suffer from Unnatural Attachment of Mother.

Oxford, Pa.—A monster green frog has won the affections of a mother sow from her seven suckling pigs, with the result that they are in danger of starvation. The story of this unnatural defection is vouched for by Hugh Cameron, a prosperous farmer of the neighborhood of Blue Ball, who claims

it is the strangest experience in all his long years of raising pigs.

During the recent hot wave the sow, longing for a mud puddle, broke from her pen, leaving her offspring to exist as best they could. Mr. Cameron soon discovered her desertion, and went in search of her. To his great surprise he found her wallowing on the edge of a pool in his meadow and an enormous bullfrog partaking of the meal that rightfully belonged to the abandoned shoats. The unnatural mother seemed very well content with the new arrangement, and the frog enjoyed himself immensely, despite the fact that the peculiar formation of his mouth prevented his getting more than a small part of the milk, most of it running off the sides and down his legs to the ground. It required considerable urging to get the sow back to her pen, and constant watching to prevent her breaking out and finding her way to the pool where the strange friend has his habitat. The naturalists of this section consider this the strangest case of animal friendship on record.

CHILD SWALLOWS TEDDY BEAR.

Pet Is Not Quite Two Inches Long and Baby Survives.

Ann Arbor, Mich.—Master John Rentschler, Jr., of Marshall, Mich., swallowed his "Teddy bear." The splinter of dolls nearly caused the death of Johnnie, and it was only through an operation by Dr. Canfield at the University hospital that "Teddy" was rescued to be cuddled once more and Johnnie saved to do the cuddling.

This particular member of the large and ever-growing "Teddy" family is only an inch and three-quarters in length and occupied a situation in human ornamentation as a watch charm. Johnnie is two years old. He could not show his love by hugging and caressing because "Teddy" was constructed on too small a scale for the embraces of even so small a child. What else to do but swallow "Teddy."

Johnnie swallowed and swallowed and then he tried to scream, but his wind was short, and when his parents found him he was in a bad way. The boy was hurried from Marshall. For fear he might not live until Ann Arbor was reached, a stop was made at Battle Creek, where an effort to remove the toy was unsuccessful. It was accomplished here, however, and "Teddy" and Johnnie are doing nicely.

Not for Some Time.

Edith's papa—And so you love my daughter? Edith's admirer—I do, indeed, sir; I cannot tell you how much I love her. Do you know what it is to see a single face everywhere, to hear a single voice ever sounding in your ears, to be possessed by the one idea, to feel all the time that the one presence is before you, to— Edith's papa—No, young man, I have never had any of those feelings since I signed the pledge.—Stray Stories.

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